

Dear Headteacher,

Join the Great Big School Clean 2026

We're writing to encourage your staff and pupils to get involved in this year's Great Big School Clean – part of the Great British Spring Clean operated by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy.

North Yorkshire Council is delighted to support this year's campaign to demonstrate to young people that the environment belongs to everyone by clearing up litter and protecting local wildlife. The RSPCA deals with thousands of calls annually concerning animals being injured or even killed by litter.

Last year nationally more than 265,000 school pupils took part, and it would be wonderful if local children could boost that total this year. We'd therefore like to ask all schools in North Yorkshire to pledge to take part in the campaign, which takes place from **13 to 29 March**.

We believe that no one is too small to make a difference - when hundreds of thousands of young Litter Heroes are inspired by their schools to join forces and take the same action at the same time, the difference they make is huge.

You can pledge to take part as a school by visiting [keepbritaintidy.org](https://www.KeepBritainTidy.org) from today. Schools who sign up will receive a free digital resource pack containing a game of litter bingo, posters and a social media assets and guide. Once you have signed up, please contact cleanupevents@northyorks.gov.uk to find out how we can support you as a council.

Ofsted sees litter as a reflection of pupils' respect for their learning environment, and the school's approach to litter can contribute towards your inspection rating in personal development, behaviour and welfare.

Eco-Schools

Keep Britain Tidy also runs a programme called Eco-Schools which provides a simple, seven-step framework empowering young people to make a difference in their school, local community and beyond. Since 1994, millions of young people around the world have worked through the Eco-Schools Seven Steps before being recognised for their efforts with a prestigious Eco-Schools Green Flag. What's more, litter-picking activity can help contribute towards this goal. For more details please visit: <https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/>

Kind regards,

North Yorkshire Council and Keep Britain Tidy